

THE
TESTIMONY and ADVICE
OF AN 4183. de. 10.
ASSEMBLY
OF
PASTORS of Churches in *New Eng-
land*, at a MEETING in *Boston*,
July 7, 1743.

Occasion'd by the late

HAPPY REVIVAL of RELIGION
in many Parts of the Land.

To which are added,

ATTESTATIONS contain'd in LETTERS from a
Number of their Brethren, who were providen-
tially hinder'd from giving their Prefence.

WITH

A RECOMMENDATION of it by the Revd. Dr. WATTS,
as the plainest and fullest Attestation to the late Work
of Divine Grace in *New England*.

By ORDER of the ASSEMBLY.

B O S T O N Printed :

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and Crown* in the *Poultry*, near the *Mansion-house*; and
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(Price Sixpence)



The RECOMMENDATION.

MANY are the Papers and Letters, the Pamphlets and little Books, which these three Years past I have received from *New-England*, most of which agree in attesting to the great Work of God in the Conversion of Souls throughout that Country from a meer formal Profession to real inward Religion and Godliness. They declare plainly that these divine Events have been much more frequent and numerous than has been usually found on such an Extent of Ground, or in such a Space of Time. The Evidences of this Work, so far as they are durable and lasting, seem to me to be very conformable to Scripture, and carry in them sufficient Reason to raise and support our Belief.

It is granted, that some of these Papers and Books also declare, that there have been several great Errors arising there; particularly *Antinomian* and *Enthusiastic* Opinions have broken forth amongst them, and some disorderly Practices appeared, such as young Preachers and Exhorters wandering through their Towns without any apparent and regular Call of any kind either from God or Men. By this Means a Negligence of their own Pastors and Disaffection to them has been unhappily encouraged among some of the People, together with a violent Spirit of Censure and Uncharitableness.

These Things have created several Contentions in the Country; but they all evidently arise from the mixed State of Things in this World, from the Follies and Imperfections even of good Christians, from the Weakness and real Madness of some Men, together with the Wickedness of others, and perhaps also from the Malice of fallen Angels, endeavouring to darken and disgrace the Work of the Spirit of God on the Soul.

The very Men that have attested this blessed Work of God, have with Sorrow seen and acknowledged these

Errors

RECOMMENDATION.

Errors and Disorders; they have spoken and written much against them, and faithfully endeavoured to prevent and suppress them; but they have not been able to shut their Eyes against the Glory of divine Grace, which has attended the Ministry of the Word.

It must be confess'd also to the Honour of this sacred Event, that in a great many Parts of *New-England*, as well as in the Towns near *Glasgow* in *Scotland*, where this same Work has been remarkable these two Years past, it has been carried on for the most Part under the Labours of their own stated Pastors and Ministers. And it must be acknowledged that 'tis much the same Doctrine which prevails in *Scotland* and in *New-England*, which has been delivered down to us by our first Reformers from Popery, which has been the happy Means of this joyful Work in both Places.

'Tis true we are informed that there remain yet some of these Irregularities in *New-England*, and sometimes have given Occasion of Strife among the Churches; but so far as I can judge, these are by no Means sufficient to destroy the Evidence that the Work is divine. And I hope that in due Time the Rays of the Sun of Righteousness will scatter all these Mists which obscure his glorious Work, and that the Power of *Christ* in the Conversion of Souls shall appear illustrious, and be honoured according to its Merit.

The Attestation to this Work of God on the Souls of Men which is given in this Pamphlet, from above one hundred and ten Ministers, who are all Pastors of Churches, in their Convention at *Boston* last July, affords perhaps the plainest and fullest Witness to this Work which I have met with; and I thought it might be very proper to appear in *London*, that the World, who are very free to censure and reproach any uncommon Appearances of God among Men, may see and judge a little more justly concerning the Affairs of Religion in *New-England* in the present Day.

Stoke-Newington,
near London, Ja-
nuary, 14th, 1743.

J. WATTS.

T H E

Testimony and Advice

Of a Number of Pastors, respecting the late happy Revival of Religion.

IF it is the Duty of every one, capable of Observation and Reflection, to take a constant religious Notice of what occurs in the daily Course of common Providence ; how much more is it expected that those Events in the divine Œconomy, wherein there is a signal Display of the Power, Grace and Mercy of God in behalf of the Church, should be observ'd with sacred Wonder, Pleasure and Gratitude ?——Nor should the People of GOD content themselves with a *silent* Notice, but *publish with the Voice of Thanksgiving, and tell of all his wondrous Works.*——

More particularly, When CHRIST is pleas'd to come into his Church in a plentiful Effusion of his Holy Spirit, by whose powerful Influences the Ministration of the Word is attended with uncommon Success, Salvation-work carried on in an eminent Manner, and his Kingdom, which is *within Men*, and consists in *Righteousness and Peace and Joy in the Holy Ghost*, is notably advanced,—THIS is an Event which above all other invites the Notice, and bespeaks the Praises of the Lord's People, and should be declar'd abroad for a *Memorial* of the divine Grace ;—as it tends to confirm the Divinity of a despised Gos-

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pel, and manifests the Work of the Holy Spirit in the Application of Redemption, which too many are ready to reproach ;——as it may have a happy Effect, by the divine Blessing, for the Revival of Religion in other Places; and the Enlargement of the Kingdom of CHRIST in the World ;——and as it tends to enliven the Prayers, strengthen the Faith, and raise the Hopes, of such as are *waiting for the Kingdom of God*, and the coming on of the Glory of the latter Days.——

But if it is justly expected of all who profess themselves the Disciples of CHRIST, that they should openly acknowledge and rejoice in a Work of this Nature, wherein the Honour of their divine Master is so much concerned ; How much more is it to be look'd for from those who are employ'd in the *Ministry of the LORD JESUS*, and so stand in a special Relation to Him, as Servants of his Household, and Officers in his Kingdom ?——*These stand as Watchmen upon the Walls of Jerusalem* ; and it is their Business not only to give the Alarm of War when the Enemy is approaching, but to sound the Trumpet of Praise when *the King of Zion cometh*, in a meek Triumph, *having Salvation*.——

For these and other Reasons, We, whose Names are hereunto annexed, Pastors of Churches in *New-England*, met together in *Boston*, July 7th 1743, think it *our* indispensable Duty, (without judging or censuring such of our Brethren as cannot at present see Things in the same Light with us) in this open and conjunct Manner to declare, to the Glory of sovereign Grace, our full Perswasion, either from what we have seen ourselves, or received upon credible Testimony, That there has been a *happy and remarkable Revival of Religion in many Parts of this Land*, thro' an *uncommon divine Influence* ; after a long Time of great Decay and Deadness, and a sensible and very awful
With-

Withdraw of the Holy Spirit from his Sanctuary among us.——

Tho' the Work of Grace wro't on the Hearts of Men by the Word and Spirit of GOD, and which has been more or less carried on in the Church from the Beginning, is always the same for Substance, and agrees, at one Time and another, in one Place or Person and another, as to the main Strokes and Lineaments of it, yet the *present Work* appears to be markable and extraordinary.

On Account of the *Numbers wrought upon*—We never before saw so many brought under Soul-concern, and with Distress making the Inquiry, *What must me do to be saved?* And these Persons of all Characters and Ages.——With Regard to the *Suddenness* and *quick Progress* of it.——Many Persons and Places were surprized with the gracious Visit together, or near about the same Time; and the heavenly Influence diffus'd itself far and wide like the Light of the Morning.——Also in Respect of the *Degree of Operation*, both in a Way of *Terror* and in a Way of *Consolation*; attended in many with unusual *bodily Effects*.——

Not that all who are accounted the Subjects of the present Work, have had these extraordinary Degrees of previous Distress and subsequent Joy. But many, and we suppose the greater Number, have been wrought on in a more gentle and silent Way, and without any other Appearances than are common and usual at other Times, when Persons have been awakened to a solemn Concern about Salvation, and have been thought to have pass'd out of a State of Nature into a State of Grace.

As to those whose *inward Concern* has occasioned extraordinary *outward Distresses*, the most of them when we came to converse with them, were able to give, what appear'd to us, a rational Account of what so affected their Minds; *viz.* A quick Sense of their

Guilt, Misery and Danger ; and they would often mention the Passages in the Sermons they heard, or particular Texts of Scripture, which were set home upon them with such a powerful Impression.— And as to such whose Joys have carried them into *Transports and Extasies*, they in like Manner have accounted for *them*, from a lively Sense of the Danger they hop'd they were freed from, and the Happiness they were now possess'd of ; such clear Views of divine and heavenly Things, and particularly of the Excellencies and Loveliness of JESUS CHRIST, and such sweet Tastes of redeeming Love as they never had before.—The Instances were very few in which we had Reason to think these Affections were produced by *visionary* or sensible Representations, or by any other Images than such as the Scripture itself presents unto us.

And here we think it not amiss to declare, that in dealing with these Persons we have been careful to inform them, That the Nature of Conversion does not consist in these passionate Feelings ; and to warn them not to look upon their State safe, because they have pass'd out of deep Distress into high Joys, unless they experience a Renovation of Nature, follow'd with a Change of Life, and a Course of vital Holiness.—Nor have we gone into such an Opinion of the *bodily Effects* with which this Work has been attended in some of its Subjects, as to judge them any Signs that Persons who have been so affected, were *then* under a *saving Work* of the Spirit of God. No ; we never so much as call'd these bodily Seizures, *Convictions* ; or spake of them as the *immediate Work* of the Holy Spirit. Yet we do not think them inconsistent with a Work of GOD upon the Soul at that very Time ; but judge that those inward Impressions which come from the Spirit of GOD, those Terrors and Consolations of which He is the Author, may, according to the natural Frame and

and Constitution which some Persons are of, occasion such bodily Effects. — And therefore that these extraordinary outward Symptoms, are not an Argument that the Work is delusive, or from the Influence and Agency of the evil Spirit.

With Respect to Numbers of those who have been under the Impressions of the present Day, we must declare there is good Ground to conclude they are become *real Christians*; the Account they give of their Conviction and Consolation agreeing with the Standard of the Holy Scriptures, corresponding with the Experiences of the Saints, and evidenc'd by the external Fruits of Holiness in their Lives: So that they appear to those who have the nearest Access to them, as so many *Epistles of Christ*, written not with Ink, but by the Spirit of the living God, attesting to the *Genuineness* of the present Operation, and representing the *Excellency* of it.

Indeed many who appear'd to be under Convictions, and were much alter'd in their external Behaviour, when this Work began, and while it was most flourishing, have lost their Impressions, and are relaps'd into their former manner of Life: Yet of those who were judg'd hopefully converted, and made a publick Profession of Religion, there have been *fewer Instances* of *Scandal* and *Apostacy* than might be expected. — So that, as far as we are able to form a Judgment, the Face of Religion is lately chang'd much for the better in many of our Towns and Congregations; and together with a *Reformation* observable in diverse Instances, there appears to be more *experimental Godliness*, and *lively Christianity*, than the most of us can remember we have ever seen before. —

Thus we have freely declar'd our Tho'ts as to the Work of GOD so remarkably reviv'd in many Parts of this Land. — And now, We desire to *bow the Knee in Thanksgiving to the God and Father of our Lord*

Lord Jesus Christ, that our Eyes have seen, and our Ears heard such Things.—And while these are our Sentiments, we must necessarily be grieved at any Accounts sent abroad, representing this Work as all *Entbusiasm, Delusion and Disorder.*

Indeed it is not to be denied that in some Places many Irregularities and Extravagancies have been permitted to accompany it, which we would deeply lament and bewail before GOD, and look upon ourselves oblig'd, for the Honour of the HOLY SPIRIT, and of his blessed Operations on the Souls of Men, to bear a publick and faithful Testimony against; tho' at the same Time it is to be acknowledg'd with much Thankfulness, that in *other Places*, where the Work has greatly flourish'd, there have been few if any of these Disorders and Excesses.—But who can wonder, if at such a Time as this Satan should intermingle himself, to hinder and blemish a Work so directly contrary to the Interests of his own Kingdom?—Or, if while so much good Seed is sowing, *the Enemy should be busy to sow Tares*—We would therefore, in the *Bowels of Jesus*, beseech such as have been Partakers of this Work, or are zealous to promote it, that they *be not ignorant of Satan's Devices*; that they *watch and pray* against Errors and Misconduct of every Kind, lest they blemish and hinder that which they desire to honour and advance.—Particularly,

That they do not make *secret Impulses* on their Minds, without a due Regard to the *written Word*, the Rule of their Duty: A very dangerous Mistake which we apprehend some in these Times have gone into—That to avoid *Arminianism* they do not verge to the opposite Side of *Antinomianism*; while we would have others take good Heed to themselves, lest they be by some led into, or fix'd in, *Arminian Tenets*, under the Pretence of opposing *Antinomian Errors*.—That *Laymen* do not invade the Ministerial

nisterial Office, and under a Pretence of *Exhorting* set up *Preaching*; which is very contrary to Gospel Order, and tends to introduce Errors and Confusion into the Church.—That *Ministers* do not invade the Province of others, and in *ordinary Cases* preach in another's Parish without his Knowledge, and against his Consent: Nor encourage *raw* and *indiscreet* young *Candidates*, in rushing into particular Places, and preaching publicly or privately, as some have done to the no small Disrepute and Damage of the Work in Places where it once promis'd to flourish. Tho' at the same Time we would have Ministers shew their Regard to the spiritual Welfare of their People, by suffering them to partake of the Gifts and Graces of *able, sound and zealous Preachers of the Word*, as GOD in his Providence may give Opportunity therefore: Being perswaded GOD has in this Day remarkably bless'd the Labours of *some* of his Servants who have *travelled* in preaching the Gospel of CHRIST.—That People beware of entertaining Prejudices against their *own Pastors*, and don't run into *unscriptural* Separations.—That they don't indulge a *disputatious Spirit*, which has been attended with mischievous Effects; nor discover a Spirit of *Censoriousness, Uncharitableness*, and rash *judging* the State of others; than which scarce any Thing has more blemish'd the Work of GOD amongst us.—And while we would meekly *exhort* both Ministers and Christians, so far as is consistent with *Truth and Holiness*, to *follow the Things that make for Peace*; we would most earnestly *warn* all Sorts of Persons not to *despise* these Out-pourings of the Spirit, lest a holy GOD be provok'd to withhold them, and instead thereof to pour out upon this People the Vials of his Wrath, in temporal Judgments and spiritual Plagues; and would *call* upon every one to improve this remarkable Season of

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Grace,

Grace, and put in for a Share of the heavenly Blessings so liberally dispensed:—

Finally,

We exhort the Children of GOD to *continue instant in Prayer*, that He, with whom is *the Residue of the Spirit*, would grant us fresh, more plentiful and extensive Effusions, that so this Wilderness, in all the Parts of it, may become a fruitful Field:— That the present Appearances may be an *Earnest* of the glorious Things promis'd to the Church in the latter Days: when she shall *shine with the Glory of the LORD arisen upon her*, so as to dazzle the Eyes of Beholders, confound and put to Shame all her Enemies, rejoice the Hearts of her solicitous and now faded Friends, and have a strong Influence and Resplendency throughout the Earth.—*AMEN!* *Even so come LORD JESUS; Come quickly!*

After solemn repeated Prayer, free Inquiry and Debate, and serious Deliberation, the above Testimony and Advice is signed by,

Samuel Moody, *Pastor of the first Church in York.*

John White, *Pastor of the first Church in Gloucester.*

Joseph Sewall, *a Pastor of the South Church in Boston.*

To the Substance, Scope and End

Samuel Wigglesworth, *Pastor of a Church in Ipswich,*

Ames Cheever, *Pastor of the Church in Manchester.*

Thomas Prince, *a Pastor of the South-Church in*

Boston, to the Substance.

John Webb, *a Pastor of a Church in Boston.*

John Cotton, *Pastor of the Church in Newton.*

Joseph Adams, *Pastor of the Church in Newington, New-Hampshire.*

James Allin, *Pastor of the Church in Brookline.*

John Chipman, *Pastor of a Church in Beverly,*

To the Substance, Scope and End.

William Cooper, *a Pastor of a Church in Boston.*

Thomas Foxcroft, *a Pastor of the first Church in*

Boston.

Joshua

Joshua Gee, *Pastor of the second Church in Boston.*
 Joseph Emerson, *Pastor of the first Church in Malden, to the Scope and Substance.*

Henry Messinger, *Pastor of the first Church in Wrentham.*

James Bayley, *Pastor of the 2d Church in Weymouth.*

Nathaniel Leonard, *Pastor of the first Church in Plimouth.*

Thomas Smith, *Pastor of the first Church in Falmouth.*

Nathaniel Rogers, *a Pastor of the first Church in Ipswich.*

Josiah Cotton, *Pastor of a Church in Providence, To the general Scope and Tendency.*

Habijah Weld, *Pastor of the Church in Attleborough, to the Substance, Scope and End.*

William Hobby, *Pastor of the first Church in Reading.*

James Pike, *Pastor of the Church in Summerworth, New-Hampshire.*

John Warren, *Pastor of the Church in Wenham.*

Nathan Webb, *Pastor of the Church in Uxbridge.*

Jedidiah Jewet, *Pastor of the first Church in Rowley.*

John Emerson, *Pastor of the Church in Topsfield, to the Scope and Substance.*

John Moorhead, *Pastor of a Church in Boston.*

Solomon Prentice, *Pastor of the Church in Grafton.*

James Chandler, *Pastor of the second Church in Rowley.*

Othniel Campbell, *Pastor of the second Church in Plimton.*

John Seccomb, *Pastor of the Church in Harvard.*

Ward Cotton, *Pastor of the first Church in Hampton, New-Hampshire.*

Amos Main, *Pastor of the Church in Rochester, New-Hampshire.*

John Cotton, *Pastor of the Church in Hallifax.*

- James Diman, *Pastor of a Church in Salem.*
To the Substance, Scope and End.
 Phineas Hemmingway, *Pastor of the Church in*
Townshend.
 David Goddard, *Pastor of the Church in Leicester,*
to the Substance.
 Samuel Bachellor, *Pastor of the third Church in*
Haverhill.
 Daniel Blifs, *Pastor of the Church in Concord.*
 Samuel Tobey, *Pastor of the Church in Berkley.*
 Elias Haven, *Pastor of the second Church in*
Wrentham.
 Thomas Balch, *Pastor of a Church in Dedham.*
 Samuel Chandler, *Pastor of the second Church in*
York.
 Samuel Hill, *Pastor of the first Church in Marshfield:*
 Joshua Tufts, *Pastor of the Church in Litchfield,*
New-Hampshire.
 Samuel Veazie *Pastor of the Church in Duxborough.*
 John Porter, *Pastor of the fourth Church in Bridge-*
water.
 Jonathan Ellis, *Pastor of the second Church in*
Plimouth.
 Josiah Crocker, *Pastor of the Church in Taunton.*
 Daniel Emerson, *Pastor of the second Church in*
Dunstable.
 Francis Worcester, *Pastor of the second Church in*
Sandwich.

WE whose Names are under-written concur with the Testimony for the Substance of it, excepting that Article of Itinerancy, or Ministers, and others, intruding into other Ministers Parishes without their Consent, which great Disorder we apprehend not sufficiently testify'd against, therein,

Benjamin

Benjamin Colman, *a Pastor of a Church in Boston.*
 Joseph Baxter, *Pastor of the Church in Medfield.*
 Nathaniel Eells, *Pastor of the second Church in*
Scituate.

Joseph Dorr, *Pastor of the first Church in Mendon.*

Samuel Checkley, *Pastor of a Church in Boston.*

Benjamin Bais, *Pastor of the Church in Hanover.*

Hull Abbot, *a Pastor of the Church in Charlestown.*

Ezra Carpenter, *Pastor of the Church in Hull.*

Ebenezer Turell, *Pastor of the Church in Medford.*

Ebenezer Parkman, *Pastor of the Church in West-*
borough.

Thomas Prentice, *a Pastor of the Church in Char-*
lestown.

Simon Bradstreet, *Pastor of the second Church in*
Marblehead.

John Fowle, *Pastor of the second Church in Hingham.*

Andrew Eliot, *a Pastor of a Church in Boston.*

Thaddeus Maccarty, *Pastor of the Church in*
Kingston.

ATTESTATIONS

Contain'd in *Letters* from a Number of *Pastors*
absent, and communicated to the *Assembly*.

I. From the Revd. Mr. JOHN ROGERS senior
 Pastor of the first Church in *Ipswich*.

‘ **W** HEREAS it has been advertis'd in a late
 ‘ *Gazette*, or *Weekly Journal*, that some
 ‘ Reverend *Ministers* in *Boston*, and *Places adjacent*,
 ‘ designing to meet together on the *Day after Com-*
 ‘ *mencement*, do desire, that as many *others* from
 ‘ the *Country*, as can conveniently, wou'd come
 ‘ down and give in their **TESTIMONY** for **GOD**,
 ‘ and

‘ and the late *glorious and remarkable Work of his Grace* (marvellously begun and carrying on among us) and that such as cannot personally appear would send their ATTESTATIONS in Writing to that Assembly;

‘ I being one of this latter Sort, who thro’ Age and Weakness of Body, am unable to travel so far—must take this Way to signify my *heartly Approbation* of such a Design, and also my Readiness with Heart and Hand to subscribe to the *most ample Testimony* that may be drawn by a better Pen, for the Purpose above-mentioned; well knowing there can never be too much or enough spoken or written by Man to magnify the Mercy of God in thus visiting his People, as of late he hath remarkably been pleased to do, or enough said or done to shew forth the Praise of divine Power, and sovereign free Grace, so wonderfully displayed in innumerable Instances and Effects thereof.

‘ I have for some Time apprehended it to be the righteous Expectation of our glorious LORD, that all his Ministers in these Churches, especially such as may have observed with Admiration (and other proper Affections) the *great Revival of the Power of Godliness*, and more general Reformation of Manners (in many Places) as a Fruit of his more *plentiful Effusion* of his most HOLY and BLESSED SPIRIT on the Minds and Hearts of the People, and (as we trust) in Answer to the constant fervent Prayers of the Faithful, both in the present and preceeding Generations—should in the most publick Manner testify their most grateful Sense of this his unmerited Favour and Loving-kindness to this People and their Posterity.

‘ I should have rejoiced to have seen something of this Nature to have gone before the Testimony of another Sort, (against some real or supposed Errors and Disorders) put forth in the Name of the late

‘ Con-

Convention. For certainly our LORD CHRIST
 ought (in all Things) to have the Pre-eminence,
 and most venerable Mention made of his glorious
 Work, before any Things, which the grand Ad-
 versary of his Kingdom and Church may have done
 to blemish, interrupt or hinder the Progress there-
 of. Nevertheless I humbly hope and believe it
 may yet be accepted of GOD, and likewise be of
 of great Service to his dear People, if a full and
 positive Declaration were drawn and subscribed by
 a Number of *Witnesses* for CHRIST, Asserting a
most powerful and clear Work of Grace (according to
 our Apprehension) wrought in the Hearts of *Mul-*
titudes, from one End of the Land to the other.
 All such as *believe* it with their *Heart*, will readily
 confess it with their *Mouth*.

Rev. and dear Brethren,

I shall on the *very Day* of your proposed *Meeting*,
 viz. *July 7th*. (GOD continuing my Life to that
 Day) enter on the 78th Year of my *Age*, and in the
 54th of my *Ministry*. And now desire, as I have
 utmost Reason, to bless GOD who has given me
 to see a Day of such marvellous Power and Grace,
 particularly in this Place, and since the Rev. Mr.
Whitefield and *Tennent* came among us; wherein
 great Numbers of our young People, and others of
 more advanced Age give clear Evidence of a saving
 Change wrought in them, and by the Fruits of the
 SPIRIT shew that they are born of the SPIRIT:
 And many Persons of *Christian Experiences* before,
 have been greatly revived, enriched with Grace,
 established and comforted by a new Influence, in
 and through the Word read and preached: This
 I have found by my best Observation in general,
 and more intimate Conversation with many of
 those Scores, yea I think, I may say *Hundreds*
 living here and in the Neighbourhood, and with
 several

several from distant Places, who universally speak the same Language, all giving Testimony by their Experience to the *Truth of Gospel Doctrines of Grace.*

Such Things as these, my Brethren, with many others which might be mentioned, and I hope will be, I would look upon as Instances of GOD's Mercy, Love and Care for his People in this Land, and signal Tokens of his abiding Presence with them: That the LORD GOD of our *Fathers* is not about to leave or forsake us. And they call for our *most publick grateful Acknowledgments* and *highest Praises* to the sovereign LORD and gracious HEAD of his Church.

But we must at the same Time carefully watch, and bear due *Testimony* against all *Errors* and *Disorders* that have or may arise, and continue in *Prayer* for *further Out-pourings* of the BLESSED SPIRIT to revive his Work in the midst of the Years, and cause it to spread far and wide, even until the *whole Earth* be filled with the Knowledge and Glory of the LORD. And in your Prayers remember me, a poor, weak and worthless Creature, that I may be made strong in the Grace of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, enabled to keep the Faith, and finish my Course with Joy in the LORD.

John Rogers, Pastor.

Ipswich, July 2. 1743.

No. II. From the Reverend Mr. JEREMIAH WISE,
Pastor of the Church in *Berwick.*

Berwick, July 1. 1743,

IT was my Design to have attended the *Convention of Pastors* after Commencement. But I am prevented by my Infirmities, which render me unable well to bear the Fatigue of a Journey in this hot Season. However, it shall be my daily

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Prayer

‘ Prayer to the glorious HEAD of the Church, that
 ‘ you all may be under the Guidance and Influence
 ‘ of the DIVINE SPIRIT in all your Proceedings.
 ‘ I shall also be ready to join with the Friends of
 ‘ the *present glorious Work of the Grace of GOD* in
 ‘ the Land, in bearing *Testimony* to it as *such a*
 ‘ *Work*; and to concur with them in the most pro-
 ‘ per *Methods* to remove *Disorders*, and prevent the
 ‘ spreading and increase of *Errors*; especially *Ar-*
 ‘ *minian* and *Antinomian*: The latter of which, be-
 ‘ gin to appear bare-fac’d, as well as the *former* in
 ‘ some Places. And it seems very natural and easy
 ‘ for those that have been in the Extream of *Armi-*
 ‘ *nianism*, to run into the contrary Extream of
 ‘ *Antinomanism*: As a *Pendulum*, if it be swung too
 ‘ far one Way, will, on its Return, swing too far
 ‘ the other Way. Agreeably, ’tis evident that some
 ‘ zealous Promoters of the *present glorious Work*, out
 ‘ of Indignation against *Arminian* Principles, which
 ‘ they have lately been delivered from, and which
 ‘ are so derogatory to the *Grace of GOD*; when
 ‘ they have espoused the contrary *Doctrines of Grace*,
 ‘ have carried Matters too far, and *verg’d* to *Anti-*
 ‘ *nomianism*. But this Misconduct of theirs, has
 ‘ given the Enemies of those *Doctrines* Advantage
 ‘ to reproach them, as naturally tending to Liber-
 ‘ tinism, Enthusiasm, and the like; and to possess
 ‘ People’s Minds with Prejudices against them, and
 ‘ the glorious Work of GOD’s Grace which through
 ‘ a divine Influence has lately attended the powerful
 ‘ preaching of those *Doctrines*. And they will not
 ‘ neglect to improve the Advantage to promote
 ‘ their own Scheme, and to bring over as many as
 ‘ they can to embrace their Principles; tho’ thereby
 ‘ their Conversion should be prevented rather than
 ‘ promoted. And it’s to be fear’d, that what some
 ‘ Gentlemen have in View at this Time, is to pro-
 ‘ mote *Arminianism* under Colour of discountenancing
Anti-

‘ *Antinomianism*, and bearing *Testimony* against the
 ‘ *Disorders* attending the present Work : And this
 ‘ we ought to be aware of, and duly guard against ;
 ‘ lest, instead of advancing the Cause and Interest
 ‘ of CHRIST, and his Truth and Grace, we should
 ‘ by this Step, prejudice and hurt it ourselves, and
 ‘ join with the Enemies of it in destroying it ; and
 ‘ that at the same Time we would be thought to be
 ‘ taking Care to promote it. As to *Disorders*, *Ir-*
 ‘ *regularities*, &c. I am of Mr. *Edwards*, the
 ‘ worthy Pastor of *Northampton*’s Mind about them,
 ‘ and therefore must refer you to his *late Book* for
 ‘ what I might say further under this Head ; wherein
 ‘ he vindicates the Conduct of the Friends of this
 ‘ Work in *some* of those Things that are accounted
 ‘ Disorders, tho’ he censures them with Respect to
 ‘ *others*.

‘ With Respect to the ordaining of *Missionaries*,
 ‘ which has been practised for some Time in the
 ‘ Country, and has been lately voted a *Disorder*, I
 ‘ can’t join in censuring it as *such* ; or in condemning
 ‘ the Practice of separating some of the Fraternity,
 ‘ that are *qualified* for it, to the sacred Ministry,
 ‘ *when there is manifest Occasion* for it. Thus, I have
 ‘ written my Thoughts about some Things, that will
 ‘ lie before the *Convention*, and

am, Sir,

‘ Your unworthy Fellow-Labourer in the Gospel,
 ‘ *Jeremiah Wise*.

No. III. From the Revd. Mr. PETER THACHER,
 Pastor of the first Church in *Middleborough*.

Middleborough, June 30. 1743.

‘ **B** EING prevented the Opportunity of giving
 ‘ an *oral Testimony* to the *Truth* and *Reality* of
 ‘ the extraordinary Work the LORD has lately ap-
 ‘ peared in among us, in *convincing*, *converting* Sin-
 ‘ *ners*,

ners, building up, comforting and sealing the Converted; I embrace this Way to do it: In which I shall confine myself to what I have seen and been acquainted with among the *People of my Charge*, tho' I might speak of the same in *other Places*.

There have been *above two Hundred* in a Judgment of Charity *savingly wrought on* since *November 1741*. *Divers before that* had been met with under the Ministry of the Rev. Mr. *Daniel Rogers* and the Rev. Mr. *Whelock*, not included in this Number. But on *one Day* in *November* aforesaid, *above Eighty* were pricked at the Heart by a Sermon from *Rom. viii. 1.* had here from the Rev. Mr. *Josiah Crocker*. Scarce a Sermon deliver'd after *that wonderful Day*, but the Hearts of some seem to be reach'd by Conviction, Conversion or Consolation. This Revival of the Power of Godliness appears to be the *genuine Work* of the HOLY SPIRIT accompanying *his Word*, and in Answer to a *Spirit of Prayer* poured out from GOD to plead with *Faith* in CHRIST for *this Good*. Spiritual Things are now treated and felt as Realities.—

We have *not known Visions*, nor *Trances*, nor *Revelations*. But *brotherly exhorting* with more Modesty and Affection than hath been represented. *Neither* have these Divine Influences been attended with *anabaptistical Errors*: *Twenty* that were before in those Mistakes are brought off. *Neither* have they been attended with the Errors of *Familism*, or *Antinomianism*. The *Arminian Errors* were by the Converts universally detected and detested: The *Doctrines of Grace* shine in their Understandings; defended and earnestly contended for from inward and real Experience. The HOLY SCRIPTURES made the *Standard* to try and examine Truth: which are now carefully searched, and esteem'd above Gold: And those *Principles* that will not bear the Trial by *this Rule*, are rejected.

‘ A general and humble Willingness to *ministerial*
 ‘ *Instructions*, eagerly sought and attended on : yet
 ‘ without giving up their Understandings. GOD’s
 ‘ *Worship*, publick, private and secret, attended,
 ‘ and other attended than ever. The Prayerless are
 ‘ prayerful ; the Loose, strict ; the *Ordinances* humbly
 ‘ sought, devoutly attended on. I believe I have seen
 ‘ at one Administration, *Two hundred* tasting the
 ‘ Sweetness of the Redeemer’s Love at one Instant.
 ‘ Indeed CHRIST is now precious, breathed after,
 ‘ esteemed, and pathetically recommended in Life
 ‘ and Conversation, relied on, rejoiced in. Their
 ‘ *Lives* are reformed as well as *Principles*, scriptu-
 ‘ rally renewed. The Drunkard is sober ; the Churl
 ‘ peaceful : Personal *Feuds* that had been subsisting
 ‘ *more than eleven Years* are buried ; and Love takes
 ‘ Place and Power, where Envy and Malice and
 ‘ Hatred formerly ruled : *Restitution* in many Places
 ‘ made ; in more, the Wrongs acknowledged. In a
 ‘ Word, all *the Fruits* of the SPIRIT are visible in
 ‘ the Converts : and they too free from *cenfurable*
 ‘ *Enthusiasm*. *This is evidently the LORD’s Doing,*
 ‘ *and it is marvellous in our Eyes !*

‘ The *abovesaid Number* is *exclusive* of many Scores
 ‘ who have been *awakened* by the Word in the late
 ‘ Showers, and yet I fear have rested short of
 ‘ CHRIST, and got secure again.

‘ I hope the true *Design* of this is, *that GOD may*
 ‘ *have the Glory of his own Work*—And THIS
 ‘ TESTIMONY I give, as knowing I must give an
 ‘ Account, with an humbling Sense of *my many De-*
 ‘ *ficiencies in this great Day of divine Grace* : In-
 ‘ treating the fervent Prayers of all that love the
 ‘ LORD JESUS in Sincerity, that I may not be a *Cast-*
 ‘ *away*, after I have preached to others ; but may
 ‘ find Grace and obtain Mercy from the LORD to
 ‘ fulfil the Ministry I have received, and to be found
 ‘ faithful in all the Parts thereof.

Peter Thacher.

No.

No. IV. From the Rev. Mr. WILLIAM SHURTLIFF, Pastor of the second Church in *Portsmouth*, in the Province of NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

To such of the Reverend *Pastors* of the Churches of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, or any other of the neighbouring Governments, as may convene in *Boston* upon the 7th Day of *July* 1743.

Reverend and Beloved,

I Should have rejoiced in the Opportunity of being with you in your *present Convention*, had it been the Will of GOD; but being providentially hinder'd, I think myself oblig'd to make this brief Declaration to the Glory of his Name, viz. *That there has for some Time past plainly appear'd to be a remarkable Revival of Religion, and a marvellous Work of GOD's Grace going on in PORTSMOUTH in NEW-HAMPSHIRE*; The Place in which I am called to labour in the Gospel Ministry. That among the very many that have been awaken'd and deeply convinced, there is a goodly Number that are giving all the Evidence that can be expected of a real and saving Change, I must at the same Time declare there has not been that Disturbance from Lay-Exhorters, from an Invasion of the ministerial Office, and many other Irregularities, that have been complain'd of in many other Places. And here I would take Leave with all Humility to say, that had I the Opportunity of being with you, whilst I should gladly bear Testimony against these Things wheresoever they prevail, I should be for using a becoming Care *that the Disorders complain'd of might not be magnified in an undue Measure*, and that nothing might come under that Character and Denomination that is not worthy of it. Whilst I should be

‘ for guarding our Pulpits and Parishes against bold,
 ‘ and ignorant Intruders, and such as may unjustly pre-
 ‘ tend to an extraordinary Call and Warrant from
 ‘ GOD, I should be careful that none of the zealous
 ‘ and faithful Preachers of the everlasting Gospel, and
 ‘ the important Doctrines of it might be excluded,
 ‘ being perswaded that GOD has bless’d the Labours
 ‘ of Strangers and even of Itinerants among the People
 ‘ with whom I am concern’d. And I can’t forbear
 ‘ saying, that as it appears to me that it would be
 ‘ of ill Consequence, if none might upon any Occasion
 ‘ whatsoever preach within the Limits of any Congre-
 ‘ gation without the Leave of its stated Pastor, I de-
 ‘ sire that neither myself, nor any of my Brethren should
 ‘ be possess’d of such an absolute and despotick Power.

‘ That you may be under the Influence of the
 ‘ great HEAD of the Church; that he who holds
 ‘ the Stars in his right Hand would direct and lead
 ‘ you and that you may unite in such Measures as
 ‘ may tend to the Progress of that good Work that
 ‘ has been begun, and be a Means greatly to ad-
 ‘ vance his Kingdom and Interest thro’ the whole
 ‘ Land, is the unfeigned Prayer of one of the
 ‘ meanest, and unworthiest of your Brethren in the
 ‘ Gospel, &c.

‘ William Shurtleff.

No. V. From the Rev. Mr. JONATHAN RUSSEL,
 Pastor of the *Western Church in Barnstable.*

‘ I Am of the Mind that there has been a great
 ‘ and good Work going forward in many Parts of
 ‘ the Land, beyond what has been in some Years past.
 ‘ Many have been awakened, convinced, reformed,
 ‘ and I hope many savingly converted: and I think
 ‘ we ought to give GOD the Praise and Glory of
 ‘ it. Yet I think there should be a proper Testi-
 ‘ mony borne against the Errors, Disorders and Con-
 ‘ fusions that have prevailed in many Places.

‘ But

‘ But perhaps the *Question* may occur, *What are the Disorders, &c.* which are to be testify’d against ? ’Tis probable one may call that Disorder and Confusion which another calls lovely and beautiful, and endeavours to promote.

‘ Brother GREEN and I had Thoughts of being at the *Commencement*, but saw him Yesterday, and he thinks the State of his Health and other Circumstances forbid his going. And the Illness of my Family discourages me. *I hope those who neither come nor send will not be branded as Opposers.* I wish you the divine Conduct in the Affair. And desire an Interest in your Prayers that I may obtain Mercy to be faithful, and that I may be successful in my Ministry.

‘ I am your Brother and Fellow-Labourer,

‘ *Jonathan Russel.*

‘ Barnstable June 30. 1743.

No VI. From SIX of the Revd. PASTORS of the *Eastern Association* in the County of York.

‘ **W**E the Subscribers, Pastors of the *Eastern Association*, taking into serious Consideration the *State of Religion* in our several Charges, and throughout the Land at this Day, look on ourselves bound in the most express Manner to declare ourselves with respect thereto.

‘ And in as much as it incontestibly appears to us from what we have seen among ourselves and in other Places, that by an extraordinary divine Influence, there hath been an HAPPY REVIVAL of RELIGION in our Land; we dare not but publickly speak out our grateful Sense thereof to the Honour of the free and sovereign Grace of God.

‘ But whereas at the same Time there have been great Complaints of prevailing Errors in Doctrine and Disorders in Practice, such as, a denying the
‘ *Doctrine*

‘ *Doctrines of the divine Decrees, Justification by Faith*
 ‘ *alone, irresistible Grace in the Conversion of Sin-*
 ‘ *ners;—and also the asserting, That secret Impulses*
 ‘ *on the Minds of Persons without due Regard to the*
 ‘ *written Word of GOD may be depended on as the Rule*
 ‘ *of their Conduct; that none are converted but such*
 ‘ *as know themselves to be so, and can tell the Time*
 ‘ *when; that Assurance is of the Essence of saving*
 ‘ *Faith; and, that Sanctification is no Evidence of*
 ‘ *Justification; with other the like Arminian, Anti-*
 ‘ *nomian and Familistical Tenets and Opinions: All*
 ‘ *which we judge are contrary to the pure Doctrines*
 ‘ *of the Gospel: And as to Disorders in Practice;*
 ‘ *such as, private Persons of no Education, without*
 ‘ *any regular Call taking upon them to preach the*
 ‘ *Word of GOD; the ordaining and separating any*
 ‘ *Person to the Work of the evangelical Ministry at*
 ‘ *Large, and without a special Relation to any parti-*
 ‘ *cular Charge to enter into the regular Districts of*
 ‘ *settled Ministers; Persons assuming to themselves the*
 ‘ *Prerogative of GOD to look into and judge the Hearts*
 ‘ *of others, censuring and condemning their Brethren,*
 ‘ *and especially their Ministers, as Pharisees, Armi-*
 ‘ *nians, blind and unconverted, &c. And upon these*
 ‘ *pretended Grounds making an actual Separation*
 ‘ *from their respective Pastors, though they openly*
 ‘ *disavow the above-mentioned Errors, and are re-*
 ‘ *gular in their Lives: All which Errors and Dis-*
 ‘ *orders being of pernicious Consequence, as tending*
 ‘ *to obscure the glorious Work of GOD, bring it into*
 ‘ *Disrepute, and obstruct the Progress of it, we would*
 ‘ *in like Manner bear our joint and solemn Testi-*
 ‘ *mony against.*

‘ And tho’ we are fully persuaded the human
 ‘ Mind under the Operations of the divine Spirit,
 ‘ may be overborne with Joy and Terror; yet the
 ‘ Transports and Agitations that have appeared in
 ‘ some Places from the ungovern’d Passions of
 ‘ People,

‘ People, and the Excess of Joy and Sorrow, we
 ‘ judge to be no certain Indication of the special
 ‘ Presence or Work of the SPIRIT of GOD. But
 ‘ at the same Time we lament the impious Spirit of
 ‘ such as from hence take Occasion to reproach the
 ‘ WORK OF THE DIVINE SPIRIT in the Hearts of
 ‘ the Children of GOD.

Sign’d,

Benjamin Allen, *Pastor of the second Church in Falmouth.*

Wm. Thompson, *Pastor of the Church in Scarboro’.*

Samuel Jefferds, *Pastor of the Church in Wells.*

John Hovey, *Pastor of the Church in Arundel.*

Nich. Loring, *Pastor of the Church in No-Yarmouth.*

Moses Morril, *Pastor of the Church in Biddeford.*

At an Association Meeting, *Scarborough*, June 23. 1743.

‘ Voted, That the above Declaration be delivered
 ‘ to the Rev. Mr. *Smith* to be by him communi-
 ‘ cated at Discretion to the VENERABLE CONVEN-
 ‘ TION of *Ministers* who are to meet at *Boston* the
 ‘ Day after the approaching Commencement, as the
 ‘ Sentiments of the Association with Relation to
 ‘ the present religious Appearances in the Country.
 ‘ *Benjamin Allen*, Moderator.

No. VII. From the Revd. Mr. JOHN ROGERS,
 junior, *Pastor of the second Church in Kittery.*

‘ MY Heart and Affections are with all of you,
 ‘ who love our LORD JESUS CHRIST in
 ‘ Sincerity, and so are real Friends to the glorious
 ‘ Work of his Grace which has been begun and carried
 ‘ on in so remarkable a Manner in our Land, and by
 ‘ such Instruments, as he has been pleased to raise
 ‘ up, and honour with wonderful Success. I hope
 ‘ now you are together you will be putting up
 ‘ united

‘ united Prayers to the glorious HEAD of the Church,
 ‘ for the *further Effusion* of the BLESSED SPIRIT,
 ‘ in his *awakening, convincing* and *converting* Influ-
 ‘ ences, and that the dear Children of God may be
 ‘ *more rooted and grounded in Faith and Love*, and
 ‘ *abound in all the good Fruits thereof*: And that the
 ‘ LORD would be pleased to raise up more skilful,
 ‘ faithful and industrious Labourers, and send them
 ‘ forth into his Harvest; for indeed *the Harvest is*
 ‘ *plenteous, but the Labours are few*. I should not
 ‘ be for spending much Time, in disputing with
 ‘ those who are Opposers of *this glorious Work of*
 ‘ GOD’s *sovereign rich free Grace*; but rather in car-
 ‘ rying them to the Throne of Grace, and there
 ‘ wrestle with the LORD to open their Eyes, and
 ‘ engage them from an Experience of the Work in
 ‘ their own Souls to regard *this glorious and gracious*
 ‘ *Operation of his HOLY SPIRIT in the Hearts of*
 ‘ *so many, and that of all Sorts, in one Place and*
 ‘ *another*. For my own Part, I want a Heart to
 ‘ conceive and a Tongue to express the Obligations
 ‘ I am under to admire, adore and praise the Name
 ‘ of the Lord, for *the great Things he has done*, and
 ‘ the yet greater (I trust) he will do for his People
 ‘ in this Land; and that he has spar’d me the chief
 ‘ of Sinners, to see *this Day of his wonderful Grace*:
 ‘ Oh praise, praise him, on my Behalf; and also
 ‘ wrestle for me when nearest to his Seat, that, I
 ‘ may know the Love of CHRIST which indeed
 ‘ passeth Knowledge, and that it may constrain me
 ‘ to love and live to him.——

‘ But this is the Consolation, *The LORD reigneth*;
 ‘ *there is no Wisdom, nor Counsel, nor Understanding*
 ‘ *against him*; he will carry on his own Work in his
 ‘ own Way; *Not by Might, nor by Power, but by*
 ‘ MY SPIRIT, *saith the LORD of Hosts*: Here we
 ‘ may rest. I hope you who are Friends to this
 ‘ Day, will have the Guidance of the HOLY SPIRIT

' in drawing up something, in Favour of *this glo-*
 ' *rious Work*, that the *Subjects* and *Friends* of it
 ' *abroad*, may praise God for what he has done
 ' among his People here : And if you should be
 ' led to this, would it not be proper to send a
 ' Draft of it to those who could not be present
 ' with you, that not a *Hand* may be wanting where-
 ' ever there is an *Heart* for it. And, *Ob that some-*
 ' *thing may be said against* ARMINIANISM *as well as*
 ' ANTINOMIANISM. I wish you much of the Pre-
 ' sence of CHRIST, and that whatever may be de-
 ' bated, may be with HIS SPIRIT, and issue in his
 ' Glory.

' I am your Brother and Friend in the dear JESUS,
 ' John Rogers.

' Kittery, July 4. 1743.

No. VIII. From *seven* Revd. *Pastors* in the *County*
 of *Hampshire*.

Reverend and Honoured Sirs,

' **W** Hereas an *Advertisement* hath lately been published,
 ' wherein it is signified, that it is the Desire of a
 ' Number of Ministers that there should be a *meeting* of all
 ' such *Ministers* in this Province as are perswaded that there
 ' has of late been a *happy Revival of Religion* in the Land,
 ' at *Boston*, the *Day after Commencement*, to give a joint
 ' TESTIMONY to the *late glorious Work of GOD's Grace*,
 ' and to consult what should be done to promote this Work,
 ' and to suppress those Things that bring a Reproach upon
 ' it and hinder it ; and in the same Advertisement it is de-
 ' sired that if any such Ministers are not able to be present at
 ' this Interview, they would not fail to send their *Testimony*
 ' and Thoughts in Writing ; We whose Names are sub-
 ' scribed to this, living at a great Distance, and our Cir-
 ' cumstances not well allowing us to go so great a Journey
 ' at the Time proposed, would hereby signify ; *That ac-*
 ' *cording to what Understanding we have of the Nature of*
 ' *Christianity*, and the *Observation we have had Oppor-*
 ' *tunity to make*, we judge that there has been within the
 ' last

‘ last two Years and an half, a blessed Out-pouring of the
 ‘ SPIRIT OF GOD in this County, in awakening and con-
 ‘ verting Sinners, and in enlightning, quickning and building
 ‘ up Saints in Faith, Holiness and Comfort ; which has
 ‘ been attended in great Numbers with an abiding Altera-
 ‘ tion and Reformation of Disposition and Behaviour. And
 ‘ particularly we would hereby declare to the Glory of
 ‘ GOD’s Grace, that we judge that there has been an
 ‘ happy Revival of Religion in the Congregations that have
 ‘ been committed to our pastoral Care, and that there are
 ‘ many in them that, by abiding Manifestations of a serious,
 ‘ religious and humble Spirit, and a conscientious Care and
 ‘ Watchfulness in their Behaviour towards GOD and Man,
 ‘ give all Grounds of Charity towards them, as having been
 ‘ sincere in the Profession they have made. And however
 ‘ there has been, especially in some Places, a Mixture of
 ‘ Enthusiasm and false Religion, and some have run into
 ‘ great Errors in their Conduct, and some have fallen away,
 ‘ and there is a Declension in others that is to be lamented ;
 ‘ yet we think the Effect has been such, and still continues
 ‘ to be such, as leaves no Room reasonably to doubt of GOD’s
 ‘ having been wonderfully in the midst of us, and such as
 ‘ has laid us under great Obligations forever to admire
 ‘ and extol the Riches of his Grace in doing such great
 ‘ Things for us. —

‘ Thus Rev. Sirs, Begging of him that he would be with
 ‘ you in your Meeting, and guide you in your Tho’ts and
 ‘ Conclusions with Respect to these Things, and direct
 ‘ you to that which may be for his Glory and the Prospe-
 ‘ rity of Zion, and desiring your Prayers to GOD for us,
 ‘ and the Flocks committed to our Care, we remain

Honoured and dear Sirs,

Your Brethren and Fellow-Servants
 in the Gospel Ministry,

Stephen Williams, *Pastor of the Church in Springfield.*

Peter Raynolds, *Pastor of the Church in Enfield.*

Jonath. Edwards, *Pastor of the Church in Northampton.*

Samuel Allis, *Pastor of the Church in Somers.*

John Woodbridge, *Pastor of the second Church in Hadley.*

David Parsons, jun. *Pastor of the third Church in Hadley.*

Edward Billing, *Pastor of the Church in Cold-Spring.*

County of Hampshire June 30. 1743.

No,

No. IX. From *two other* Revd. Ministers in the County of *Hampshire*; who having seen the *above-said Attestation*, they in another Letter express their Concurrence therewith in the following Terms—

Hadley, June 29. 1743.

‘ **T** HIS Line occasioned by a Paper sign’d by *some of*
 ‘ *our Fathers and Brethren* in the *Ministry* in this
 ‘ *County* respecting the *late happy Revival of Religion*,
 ‘ *waits on you to let you know, that we can heartily join*
 ‘ *with those Rev. Gentlemen in giving our TESTIMONY to*
 ‘ *every Thing there inserted concerning the late Revival of*
 ‘ *the great and glorious Work of divine Grace in our own*
 ‘ *and the neighbouring Churches: the happy Fruits whereof*
 ‘ *are conspicuous in the Lives and Conversations of many of*
 ‘ *our late Converts especially.*

Timothy Woodbridge, Pastor of the Church in Hatfield.
Chester Williams, a Pastor of the first Church in Hadley.

No. X. From the Revd. Mr. DANIEL PUTNAM,
 Pastor of the second Church in *Reading*.

‘ **I** Find that *such of our Brethren who are perswaded*
 ‘ *there hath of late been a happy Revival of Religion*
 ‘ *thro’ an extraordinary divine Influence in many Parts of*
 ‘ *this Land*, are desired to manifest the same, either by
 ‘ *giving their Presence at the appointed Meeting, or by*
 ‘ *writing.* The Circumstances of my Health makes riding
 ‘ *grievous to me: but I am ready and that freely and I*
 ‘ *hope thankfully to declare that I have had the Oppor-*
 ‘ *tunity, thro’ the tender Compassions of a merciful GOD,*
 ‘ *to see much of the gracious Work of GOD in the Re-*
 ‘ *vival of decaying Religion among the People committed*
 ‘ *to my pastoral Care; and this without such Disorders*
 ‘ *and Extrems that are so much complained of in many*
 ‘ *Places: the Worship of GOD not disturbed. And to*
 ‘ *give you as brief an Account as I can.*

‘ *Sometime the beginning of March 1742, under a Sense*
 ‘ *of the great Decay of Religion among us, we kept a*
 ‘ *Day of Fasting and Prayer, to seek to GOD for the*
 ‘ *pouring out of HIS SPIRIT upon us: and GOD was*

' pleased out of his abundant Grace to give us *speedy Answers*
 ' of Prayer. For the space of *five or six Weeks*, more or
 ' less of my People *younger and elder* came to my House
 ' *every Day* in the Week *except Sabbaths*; and manifestly
 ' under a Work of *Conviction*, deeply concerned for the
 ' State of their Souls, and many of them expressing them-
 ' selves in these Words; O Sir, *what shall I do, what*
 ' *shall I do to get rid of my Sins?* Complaining of the
 ' *Load of Guilt* on their Consciences, and of the *Power of*
 ' *Sin* in their Souls, of the *hardness of their Hearts*, of
 ' the *Sense* of GOD's Wrath due to them: And some
 ' signifying to me, that *they even now felt what they only*
 ' *before knew as by hear-say*; that the Heart is so despe-
 ' *rately wicked, and by Nature so unfit for Heaven*. Some
 ' when they heard mention made of CHRIST and of the
 ' *Mercy of GOD*; I cannot relate the *greatness of the*
 ' *Distress* that it put them into, to consider that their Sins
 ' were against *such Mercy, such Love!*

' But I will not enlarge. I know this was the *Work* of
 ' the SPIRIT of GOD as a *Spirit of Bondage and Fear*,
 ' thus convincing and humbling them: And the most of
 ' these we have Grounds to hope have been since as *fully*
 ' *convinced of Righteousness* and of *Judgment*, of the *Alsus-*
 ' *siciency* of CHRIST as *Priest and King*; as they were
 ' *convinc'd* of their Sins and *Misery* before; and we cha-
 ' ritably hope have experienced by *Faith* in HIM thro' the
 ' Merit of his Righteousness, and the Power of his Grace,
 ' *that Rest* that he gives to such weary Souls that receive
 ' him with their whole Heart: And there has been *large*
 ' *Additions* to the Church considering the Number of the
 ' People. And not only has this been the happy Case of
 ' some that were *without the visible Church*, but even se-
 ' veral of the *Members* of the Church have been very
 ' deeply concerned about the State of their own Souls:
 ' And I hope it has been for their everlasting Good. The
 ' SPIRIT of GOD has in Mercy to our Souls been as a
 ' *refining Fire* in this Respect, I trust I can say; and has
 ' search'd *this Jerusalem* as with *Candles*: And I hope
 ' that both *Foolish and Wise* have been awakened now while
 ' *Oyl* and Increase thereof may be had. And not to in-
 ' large, as I might do, I would mention *one Instance* in
 ' particular: A *Sister* of our Church aged *Ninety one Years*,
 ' who hath been under *Desertion* even to a very great De-
 ' gree

‘ gree for *above twenty Years*, (who was esteem’d converted in Youth) she in this Time has been favour’d with the *Light of GOD’s Countenance*, to her abundant Joy, and remains so.

‘ As to *my People in general*, there has been, and I hope remains a *Reformation* in many Respects which might be mentioned. And my Thoughts of the *Work of GOD* among us are still the same. That it calls for a *publick Acknowledgement* to the *Praise of GOD*; notwithstanding *some Disorders and Errors* there may be in the Land. Can we not distinguish between that which is of *GOD* and that which is *not*? Shall we say there is *no Wheat* because there are *Tares and Chaff*? *The Work proves itself*: and those that have experienc’d it on their own Souls, doubtless are best able to say how it is. Let *our earnest Prayer* be to the *GOD of all Grace* that where he has begun it, he would *carry it on*, and *begin* it where it is not begun; that the *Kingdom of this World* may become the *Kingdoms of OUR BLESSED LORD AND SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST*; that he would go on in a *Way of Mercy* to pour out *HIS SPIRIT* upon us, and of *his Blessing* upon our Children; that we may all know the *LORD* from the *eldest* to the *youngest*; and may be ready and prepared as a *Bride for his coming*.

‘ I am your Brother in the Ministry of the Gospel,

Daniel Putnam.

Reading, June 30th 1743.

No. XI. From the Rev. Mr. OLIVER PEABODY,
Pastor of the Church in Natick.

‘ Natick, July 4th. 1743.

‘ **A**S to my own Thoughts of the present Day; I freely profess, that I believe there has been a *very remarkable and glorious Work of GOD* in many Parts of *this Land of late Years*, and it is still in *some Measure going on*: altho’ at the same Time, I believe God has permitted some, through an overheated Zeal to do those Things which have very much hindred the Progress of this good Work, particularly by prejudicing People against their own Pastors, encouraging Separations, and encouraging Lay-exhorters; and laying too much Stress
‘ on

' on Crying out, on being under strong Convictions and
 ' then receiving Comfort, &c. I don't look on these
 ' Things as any Part of the good Work. For altho' I
 ' hope and believe, that where these extraordinary Things
 ' have been encouraged there have been some savingly
 ' brought Home to CHRIST; yet as far as I can possibly
 ' inform myself, there have been many more in Propor-
 ' tion savingly converted, where Ministers and People have
 ' not encourag'd such Things: And I am fully perswaded
 ' it will in Time appear evidently to be so. *There have*
 ' *been very observable Strivings of the ever BLESSED*
 ' *SPIRIT on the Hearts of many, especially Young People,*
 ' *in convincing and enlightening, and I hope converting*
 ' *them; in my neighbouring Towns: as in Medfield,*
 ' *Dedham, Needham, Medway and Sherbourn, &c. Where*
 ' *the Ministers have been lively and faithful. And among*
 ' *my little People, (I would mention it to the Glory of*
 ' *the rich Grace, and of the BLESSED SPIRIT of GOD)*
 ' *there have been very apparent Strivings and Operations*
 ' *of the HOLY GHOST among Indians and English, Young*
 ' *and Old, Male and Female. 'There have been added to*
 ' *our Church (of such as I hope shall be saved) about fifty*
 ' *Persons of different Nations, since the Beginning of last*
 ' *March was two Years, whose Lives in general witness to*
 ' *the Sincerity of their Profession. Here, we have never*
 ' *had any crying out in an extraordinary Manner, but the*
 ' *HOLY SPIRIT has been pleased to work in a more calm*
 ' *Way; but I hope effectually. But I must mention it,*
 ' *altho' with Sorrow, that for some Months past (altho'*
 ' *some are under powerful Operations) yet there has not*
 ' *appeared so much of the genuine Operations of the*
 ' *SPIRIT as heretofore; People's Minds have seemed and*
 ' *do seem too much taken up with disputing about Per-*
 ' *sons and Things; some are for one Minister and some*
 ' *for another, and some I think I may say can't bear sound*
 ' *Doctrine; which with us, has arisen (as I apprehend)*
 ' *from some ignorant and erroneous Persons who have*
 ' *spread and propagated corrupt Doctrines; as a Specimen*
 ' *of this they say I preach dangerous Doctrines, because I*
 ' *have preach'd that a Person may be converted and not*
 ' *certainly know it, &c.*

' Upon the whole then, I am humbly of Opinion
 ' that as there ought to be a publick ATTESTATION

‘ *the glorious Work of divine Grace* among us ; it ought to
 ‘ be so *distinctly considered*, and so *distinguished* from what
 ‘ is a Dishonour to it ; that all may know what we under-
 ‘ stand by *the Work of GOD* among us ; and a full ex-
 ‘ plicit *Testimony* ought to be born by you against all such
 ‘ Things, as in any Measure tend to *blemish* or *hinder* the
 ‘ *Work of GOD* among us : And I believe the more par-
 ‘ ticular and express you be, it will be so much the better.

‘ Finally, I earnestly pray that the glorious HEAD of
 ‘ the Church will vouchsafe his gracious Presence and par-
 ‘ ticular Influence and Direction to, and with you, in
 ‘ what is before you ; and that you and all of us may be
 ‘ owned and honoured as Instruments in his Hands, of
 ‘ promoting his Interest and Glory here, that so we may
 ‘ have the Reward of faithful Servants hereafter.

‘ I am your Brother, and Servant,

‘ *Oliver Peabody.*

‘ P. S. I would particularly remark that some with
 ‘ whom I have conversed date their *Convictions* which
 ‘ have been still carried on without any great Inter-
 ‘ mission, before ever Mr. *Whitefield* came hither.
 ‘ And also that about *fifteen Years* ago we had some-
 ‘ thing like this, at *Natick*.

No XII. From the Rev. Mr. JOHN TUCKE, Pastor
 of the Church in Gosport, on the *Isle of Schoals*, in
 the Province of NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

‘ SEEING in the *Boston Gazette* of the 31st of May
 ‘ last an Intimation that it is desired and proposed
 ‘ by a *Number of Ministers* in Town and Country, that
 ‘ such of their Brethren as are *perswaded there has of late*
 ‘ *been a happy Revival of Religion, through an extraor-*
 ‘ *inary divine Influence, in many Parts of this Land*, and
 ‘ are concerned for the Honour and Progress of *this re-*
 ‘ *markable Work of GOD*, may have an Interview at
 ‘ *Boston* the Day after the approaching Commencement, to
 ‘ consider, &c. But if any who *heartily concur* in the End
 ‘ and Design of this Proposal, be hindred in Providence
 ‘ from giving their Presence at this designed Interview, it
 ‘ is earnestly desired they would send their ATTESTATI-

‘ONS and communicate their Thoughts seasonably in writing. According to this Desire and Proposal I had design’d to be at the *Interview*, but Providence is now sending Sickness into my Family, so that I can’t be in *Boston* this Week, I therefore sent my Thoughts in Writing.

‘ I acknowledge the *Work* in this Land to be a blessed *Work of GOD*: And I believe that it is the Duty of *CHRIST’s Ministers* to give an open conjunct TESTIMONY unto it. I apprehend that there are in one Place and in another certain abominable *Antinomian, Arminian, Socinian, Pelagian, Familistical, &c. Errors*, and some Disorders in Practice, which ought to be testify’d against.-----

‘ We have a *Revival of Religion* among us. I beg your Prayers for my Family, my People, and my self.

I am with all due Regards,

‘ Your humble Servant,

‘ *John Tucke.*

‘ *Gosport, July 4th. 1743.*

No. XIII. From the Revd. Mr. DAVID HALL,
Pastor of the Church in *Sutton*.

‘ HAVING been desired by some of my Brethren, to write, provided I was not like to be personally present at the *Commencement*; to signify my Sentiments of the *Work of a religious Nature*, that has been carried on in many Parts of this Land for some Years past;

‘ I am free, it should be known, that I do greatly rejoice in the blessed *Work* that has been in the Land, and have been to the utmost of my Power labouring to promote it in these Parts.

‘ And as to the *Essence* of it; if I understand the *Doctrines of the Gospel* according to Truth, and that old solid *Calvinistical Divinity*, which was so dear to our *Fathers*; and if the *Writings* of Messrs. *Shepard, Wil- lard, Stoddard*, and numberless other Divines of that Stamp and Principle, are to be regarded as the *Writings* of Men that rightly understood the Way of Salvation; I must conclude that the *Work* is the same, as to the
‘ *essen-*

essential Parts of it, which in *their Days*, as well as from the Beginning, had been by the Servants of the most high GOD, rejoiced in, as the only Way to Heaven, which the Gospel teacheth

Some Irregularities (it is true) have sometimes attended the Subjects of this Work; and some Imprudences may also have sometimes attended the Promoters of it: But what is Man that he should be perfect?

There may be also some high Pretenders to the Work of Conversion in this remarkable Day, that may turn out Counterfeits: and such Tares have been among the Wheat hitherto, and will be to the End: so that neither is this to be wondered at.

Moreover I have not been without Fears, lest some at this Day run into Antinomian and familistical Errors; and that others would fall into enthusiastick Phrensies, Evils by all Means to be watch'd and guarded against: And who in this Life is out of Danger? Dangers of this Kind are proportionably greater according to the Height of Men's Zeal, and the Smallness of their Knowledge and Experiences; and where there is a vast Number of young and zealous Converts in a Place, and very few of long Experience to steady them, some for a Time appear in some Respects very weak and unsteady; it is not to be wondered at: being fed with the sincere Milk of the Word, it is hopeful, they will grow thereby.

But I conceive that in general the Subjects of this Work, are groundlessly charged with such Errors and Evils at this Day: and indeed I marvel not at it. For as there are very sad Tinctures of Arminianism in many; so with the Subjects of that Error, the PURE DOCTRINES of FREE GRACE and JUSTIFICATION by FAITH ALONE, are often charged upon, as Antinomian Errors. And with the dead Formalist, THAT SACRED ZEAL, which is inkindled in the Breast of true Believers, from the sanctifying Spirit, forming their Hearts to Love, and drawing forth the Powers of their Souls in a fervent lively Manner, to pursue the great Duties required of us by GOD in his Word; why all this is by such termed Enthusiasm.

And no wonder therefore there are so many Enemies to the blessed Work of GOD in the Land; seeing it is to be feared there are so many, who would have all be counted Enthusiasts, Antinomians, &c. that are under any power-
F^r ful

ful Constraints from the Views of divine Sovereignty and Grace.

But let such Men think what they will of their slighting the precious Showers of divine Grace ; yet I am of the Opinion of Mr. Edwards of Northampton, that the GREAT JEHOVAH of a Truth has been in New-England.

And although I hope many of those who are fighting against this Work, doing it ignorantly will find Mercy ; yet for one that has seen and known so much of the Power and Grace of GOD, in breaking down the stubborn Hearts of so many Scores of Sinners, that were wicked Livers, turning them from their ungodly Courses to the Ways of Virtue ; who are become some of the most lively Christians, and as far as I can learn and judge, walking in Godliness and Honesty ; as also the wonderful Change I have observed, even upon such as were moral Men before, and high Professors, who have been convinced of their being very Hypocrites, building upon a false Foundation, who declare with Wonder and Transport, what GOD has done for their Souls, and think none so beholden as they, to divine sovereign Grace : Upon the whole, if after all that I have seen and known, of the Wonders of GOD's Power and Grace, I should join in with such, as render these Doings of the LORD to be the Work of the Devil, I have thought in me it would be the Sin against THE HOLY GHOST.

I stand ready to join in bearing any proper Testimony against the Ingratitude of the Men of this Generation. And for my own Part think, I can never praise GOD enough, for the Work he hath Wrought among us ; and doubt not but he will carry it on to greater Perfection.

From your unworthy Brother,

Sutton June 30. 1743.

David Hall.

No. XIV. From the Rev. Mr. BENJAMIN BRADSTREET, Pastor of the Church in Gloucester.

WHEN I first saw in the Tuesday's Paper of May the 31st. the Proposal and Desire of a Number of Ministers both in Town and Country, that such of their Brethren as are persuaded that there has of late been a happy Revival of Religion, thro' an extraordinary di-

vine

‘ *wine Influence in many Parts of this Land, &c.* —
 ‘ might have an INTERVIEW at *Boston* the *Day after*
 ‘ the approaching *Commencement* ; immediately I thought
 ‘ within myself I would be present then ; but the Cir-
 ‘ cumstances of my Family are such as by no Means will
 ‘ admit of it.

‘ Therefore this comes to inform you ; that *I am fully*
 ‘ *persuaded that of late* (Glory be to GOD) *there has been*
 ‘ *a happy Reformation, and glorious Revival of Religion*
 ‘ *in a wonderful Manner, in many Places in NEW-*
 ‘ *ENGLAND* ; tho’ in some Places attended with some
 ‘ Irregularities and Disorders thro’ the permitted Agency
 ‘ of Satan ; and no Wonder at all that *this grand Arch-*
 ‘ *Enemy* should use all his Devices at such a Day, to ble-
 ‘ mish so glorious a Work, which so fatally shakes his
 ‘ Kingdom.

‘ I am sure *in my little Parish* there is of late a very
 ‘ considerable Reformation and Revival of Religion. (Let
 ‘ GOD have all the Glory :) Tho’ I had labour’d hard
 ‘ for it, yet I could never persuade *young Persons* to form
 ‘ themselves into a *Society*, for the spending together the
 ‘ Sabbath Evening in religious Exercises, until *about fifteen*
 ‘ *Months past* : And now we have *two Societies* of *young*
 ‘ *Persons* who meet together *twice in the Week* to read,
 ‘ sing, and pray ; *to each of which I preach once a Quarter*.
 ‘ And some of them which were too much addicted to the
 ‘ youthful Sins of *Quarreling, Swearing, Drinking, &c.*
 ‘ seem to be *wonderfully reformed*, and are *hungering and*
 ‘ *thirsting after the Righteousness* of CHRIST ; and there is
 ‘ a very pleasant Change wrought in them. And the
 ‘ *Aged many of them* (tho’ some are stumbled at the present
 ‘ Day) among us seem to be *anointed afresh* : And there is
 ‘ a happy Revival of Religion. Our *Lectures* which have
 ‘ been *once a Week, for more than fifteen Months past*, are
 ‘ *fuller and better attended, than when we had* (as for-
 ‘ merly) a *Lecture once in six Weeks*. We have had *many,*
 ‘ (*mostly young Persons*) under great Concern and deep
 ‘ *Convictions*, many crying out in Time of divine Service
 ‘ under a Sense of their Sins, *What they should do*, and the
 ‘ *most of them* have had their *Convictions* ending in the *Joy*
 ‘ *of the LORD*, and *Confort* of the HOLY GHOST.

‘ In *my very small Parish* (consisting of *about eighty*
 ‘ *Families*) we have had in *about twelve Months past* (when

' we had before more Communicants than Families) about
 ' forty added to the Church; and all excepting one, by the
 ' Grace of God (blessed be his Name) live to bear good Fruit.
 ' Thanks be to God, we have no Divisions, nor Sepa-
 ' rations among us; we are without Dreams, Visions, and
 ' Trances, (tho' there has been some in the Neighbour-
 ' hood) nor are we troubled with Exhorters. The People
 ' seem to express a greater Love for their Minister, and a
 ' greater desire than ever to hear the Word; and I hope
 ' their unworthy Minister has a greater Regard than ever
 ' for their Souls.

' So that I am far from joining with those, who say
 ' the present Day in general is a dark Day to our Churches,
 ' and looks with a melancholly Aspect. (Tho' to be sure,
 ' for the Divisions of Reuben there ought to be great
 ' Searchings of Heart; and my Soul mourns in secret for
 ' the Divisions of the House of Levi, and the Separation
 ' there is from some of our Churches; and I freely confess
 ' that I verily believe, there has been of late and now is, a
 ' blessed Work of GOD going on in many Parts of this Land,
 ' and divine Influence the Spring of it. And it is surpris-
 ' ing to me that any, because of some Disorders, should attri-
 ' bute the whole of the glorious Scene to the Delusions of
 ' the Devil; for I am full in the Opinion that in general
 ' the present Day is a glorious Day of GOD's Grace to
 ' NEW-ENGLAND. Should be exceeding glad, if at your
 ' Interview (and to this End my Heart's Desire and
 ' Prayer to almighty GOD is that much of the divine Pre-
 ' sence may be with you) some Method may be taken (as
 ' is one proposed End of your Meeting) to guard People
 ' against such Delusions and Mistakes, as at such a Season
 ' they are in Danger of falling into, and that this blessed
 ' Work may continue and flourish among us.----I ask your
 ' Prayers for me, and my Flock: and am your Servant
 ' and Brother in the Faith and Fellowship of the Gospel,

' Benjamin Bradstreet.

' Gloucester Annisquam Parish June 1743.

No. XV. From the Rev. Mr. JOHN WALES, Pastor
of the Church in *Raynham*.

‘ **I** Having lately been inform’d by the *public Prints*, that
 ‘ it is the Desire of a Number of *Ministers* in *Boston*,
 ‘ and *elsewhere*; that those of their Brethren in the Mi-
 ‘ nistry, who are convinced, that the present Operation
 ‘ upon the Minds and Consciences of People in this Land,
 ‘ is THE WORK of GOD; would meet in *Boston* the Day
 ‘ after Commencement; to consult and advise what may be
 ‘ proper to be done for the promoting this good Work,
 ‘ and also to prevent those Imprudencies that in some
 ‘ Places, have been said to attend it; my Circumstances
 ‘ will not admit of my coming down; I therefore thought
 ‘ I would write a Line to let you know, that I most firmly
 ‘ believe the present Operation to be THE WORK of the
 ‘ blessed GOD; and I, and many of my Charge, I hope
 ‘ shall forever bless and praise the great GOD for the great
 ‘ Display of his special Grace, he has lately made in this
 ‘ Place, in bringing of many Souls savingly to close with
 ‘ CHRIST, and embrace him according to the Gospel Offer.

‘ As to the Imprudencies and Irregularities that have
 ‘ been said to attend this blessed Work, I can say nothing
 ‘ about them; for I have seen (blessed be GOD for it) few
 ‘ if any of them. I should greatly rejoice, to have any
 ‘ Thing done, that might have a Tendency to promote
 ‘ this Work of the blessed GOD in this Land, and thro’
 ‘ the World: and should be willing to have my Name
 ‘ annexed to any Thing that may be publish’d, for the
 ‘ promoting and encouraging this Work of GOD. In
 ‘ the general, I am full in my Tho’ts with Mr. Edwards
 ‘ in his Discourse, upon the present Revival of Religion, in
 ‘ five Parts; and am willing to have my Name set to
 ‘ what may be publish’d consistent with that.

‘ It is my Purpose to give in my Testimony to this great
 ‘ and good Work, and an Account of the Rise and Progress
 ‘ of it among us, in a short Time; and therefore shall not
 ‘ now enlarge. Praying that the GREAT SHEPHERD
 ‘ may lead his faithful Ambassadors into such Methods and
 ‘ Measures, (on the Day of their Convention) whereby
 ‘ his Glory may be advanced, and the Kingdom of OUR
 ‘ LORD and SAVIOUR JESUS CHRIST be made to
 ‘ flourish

‘ flourish every where, by Souls being brought into it :
 ‘ Intreating an Interest in your Prayers to GOD for me
 ‘ and my Charge ; I subscribe myself your most un-
 ‘ worthy Servant in the Labours of the Gospel of the
 ‘ BLESSED JESUS.

‘ John Wales.

Raynham, July 4th. 1743.

No. XVI. From the Revd. Mr. IVORY HOVEY,
 Pastor of the second Church in *Rockester*.

‘ **I**N Compliance with the Desire of some of the Revd.
 ‘ *Ministers at Boston*, viz. That *the Ministers* of this
 ‘ Land who could not be present at an appointed *Inter-*
 ‘ *view the Day after Commencement*, and yet were fully
 ‘ *satisfied* in their own Minds, that *there has of late been*
 ‘ *an extraordinary Work of GOD’s SPIRIT upon the Hearts*
 ‘ *of People in this Land*, or *a special Revival of Religion*
 ‘ *in many Places among us*, would communicate their
 ‘ Thoughts in Writing : These are to inform, that I the
 ‘ Subscriber being fully persuaded that *there has been such*
 ‘ *a Work, such a glorious Out-pouring of the HOLY*
 ‘ *SPIRIT upon our Land of late* ; think myself obliged
 ‘ *in Gratitude*, and bound in Duty to the GLORIOUS
 ‘ *AUTHOR of said Work*, to join with you in giving Glory
 ‘ and Praise unto Him for the same (according to my Ca-
 ‘ pacity.) At the same Time am ready to join with you
 ‘ also in bearing proper *Testimony* against those *Errors in*
 ‘ *Doctrine*, and *Disorders in Practice* that any may have
 ‘ been guilty of, or fallen into since *this blessed Revival*.
 ‘ In a Word, I having seen and carefully perused a *Decla-*
 ‘ *ration* signed by the Revd. Ministers of the *Eastern Af-*
 ‘ *sociation of the County of York* (which I suppose you have
 ‘ in your Hands) can readily unite with them in each
 ‘ Article: Altho’ I at first *hesitated* a little when I came
 ‘ to *that Article of ordaining Ministers at large*, yet when
 ‘ I had pondered upon it, and *heard their Explanation of it*,
 ‘ I think I can comply with it in the Sense they intend
 ‘ it: So that I need not be more particular in declaring
 ‘ my Sentiments. But earnestly desiring an Interest in
 ‘ your Prayers for me and my Flock, I remain yours in
 ‘ the Fellowship of the Gospel,

‘ Biddeford, June 26. 1743.

‘ Ivory Hovey.

An

An APPENDIX

Containing ATTESTATIONS which have come to the Committee from *several Pastors* since the *Breaking up* of THE ASSEMBLY.

No. I. From the Rev. Mr. APPLETON, Pastor of the first Church in *Cambridge*, in the County of *Middlesex*.

‘ Cambridge, July 18. 1743.

‘ Reverend Gentlemen,

‘ **W**HEREAS I was not present at the *Assembly of Ministers* in *Boston* the *Day after Commencement*,
 ‘ I do now agreeable to the *Desire* and *Proposal* in the
 ‘ *publick Prints* send in the following ATTESTATION,
 ‘ containing my Thoughts concerning the late, and present
 ‘ Times, relating to *Religion*, viz.

‘ From what I have heard, and from what I have seen,
 ‘ and observed in several Towns ; but more especially in
 ‘ *my own Flock*, I can testify that there has been in some
 ‘ of the Years past, a *religious Concern* among *People of*
 ‘ *all Ages*, but more especially of the younger Sort, that has
 ‘ been extraordinary. And I am perswaded that the
 ‘ SPIRIT of GOD has been stirring up *Convictions* in
 ‘ *Multitudes*, beyond what has been common. And there
 ‘ is Reason to hope that greater Numbers than usual, have
 ‘ had *gracious saving Impressions* made upon their Souls ;
 ‘ which is to be acknowledged to the Glory of GOD’s rich
 ‘ and free Grace. And I am perswaded from my Acquaintance with *Ministers*, that this is the *Judgment* and
 ‘ Opinion of a great Number of them whose Names will
 ‘ not be found in this *publick Testimony*.

‘ But then what I look upon as Matter of Lamentation at this Day is, that those Convictions as to great
 ‘ Numbers in these Parts of the Land have dyed away
 ‘ without leaving any good Effect upon them. And that
 ‘ thro’ the *Weakness* of *Men*, and the *Subtilty* of *Satan*,
 ‘ many Errors, Delusions and Disorders have crept into
 ‘ some Places, and much of the religious Concern is de-
 ‘ generating into *Controversy*.

‘ But I pray God that the *Testimonies* and the *Counsels*, that are or have been given by the *Ministers* of
 ‘ CHRIST, may be blessed for the suppressing every Thing
 ‘ of a threatening Aspect upon these Churches; And that
 ‘ we may all be directed to, and united in, those Measures
 ‘ which GOD will own, and bless for the further pro-
 ‘ moting and advancing the Interest and Kingdom of
 ‘ JESUS CHRIST among us, even that Kingdom of his,
 ‘ which is *Righteousness* and *Peace* and *Joy in the Holy*
 ‘ *Ghost*.

‘ *Nathanael Appleton.*

No. II. From the Rev. Mr. PARKER, Pastor of the
 first Church in *Plimpton*, in the County of *Plimouth*.

‘ *Plimpton, July 4. 1743.*

‘ I Was desirous if Providence had given Leave to have
 ‘ been at the CONVENTION *this Week*: but my Cir-
 ‘ cumstances are such that I must be excused. I wou’d
 ‘ therefore by a Line signify my Thoughts of the *Work*
 ‘ which has of late so remarkably appeared among us:
 ‘ And as I have had Opportunity of seeing and *conversing*
 ‘ with many that have been the *Subjects* of this *Work*, and
 ‘ of observing their *holy, blameless and circumspect Walk*
 ‘ and *Conversation*; I am fully convinced that it is no
 ‘ other than a glorious *Work* of GOD, and a *Day* of his
 ‘ great *Power* and *Grace*; and that all are obliged to own
 ‘ and acknowledge it to the Praise and Glory of free
 ‘ Grace.

‘ I am of Opinion that Mr. *Edwards* has given a
 ‘ faithful Account of the good *Work* going on in the Land
 ‘ in his Book intituled, *Some Thoughts concerning the present*
 ‘ *Revival of Religion in NEW-ENGLAND*: and well ob-
 ‘ serves that such as reject such a *Work* as he has described
 ‘ as not being the *Work* of GOD must reject the Bible, not
 ‘ only in some particular Passages, but in the Substance of
 ‘ it. Page 60, 61. And I think he has impartially con-
 ‘ sidered those Things of a bad Tendency which attend the
 ‘ present *Work* of GOD, and which need to be corrected
 ‘ and avoided.

‘ I have no more to add but my sincere Prayer, that
 ‘ all CHRIST’S Ministers who may convene on this great
 ‘ Occasion,

‘ *Occasion*, may enjoy much of the divine Presence, and
 ‘ be directed to bear such a TESTIMONY for GOD in this
 ‘ remarkable Day of his Grace, as that (by the Blessing of
 ‘ Heaven) it may serve to convince *Gainsayers*, and to fill
 ‘ both the *Hearts* and *Mouths* of his *Saints* with *Praise*
 ‘ and *Thanksgiving* for the great and good Things which
 ‘ GOD is doing for this People.

‘ I beg Leave to subscribe your Brother in the Work of
 ‘ the Gospel, and humble Servant,

‘ *Jonathan Parker.*

No. III. From the Rev. Mr. MAC GREGORE,
 Pastor of the second Church in *Londonderry*. in
 the *Province* of NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

‘ I T was with no small Satisfaction that I heard of such a
 ‘ Number of Ministers meeting in Boston the 7th Instant,
 ‘ in order to give a UNITED TESTIMONY to that glorious
 ‘ Work of GOD’s Power and Grace with which he has
 ‘ been graciously visiting our Land.

‘ Tho’ my Attendance at the Convention had been but
 ‘ of small Consequence, yet I should gladly have gone
 ‘ there to contribute my Mite, had not a long Journey
 ‘ Eastward prevented me, to the Prosecution of which
 ‘ I was under a previous indispensable Obligation.

‘ As to the remarkable religious Appearances that have
 ‘ been in various Parts of our Land these two or three Years
 ‘ last by gone, after the most deliberate and impartial In-
 ‘ quiry I have been capable of making, endeavouring to
 ‘ give every Thing its due Weight in the Balances of the
 ‘ Sanctuary, I have long ago come to the following Conclu-
 ‘ sion, in which I am daily more and more confirm’d; viz.

‘ That as far as my personal Knowledge has reach’d,
 ‘ I look upon these religious Appearances in the general to
 ‘ be the HAPPY EFFECTS of DIVINE INFLUENCE.
 ‘ I have had an Opportunity of being personally and par-
 ‘ ticularly acquainted with a great Number of those who
 ‘ have been the Subjects of religious Concern in this accep-
 ‘ table Year of the LORD: And when I hear them de-
 ‘ clare what they have experienced on their own Souls
 ‘ with Respect to Conviction, Humiliation, Illumination
 ‘ of the Mind in the Knowledge of CHRIST, together with
 ‘ a happy consequent Change they experience in the Will
 ‘ and Affections, and withal observe the Correspondency
 ‘ of their Lives with their profess’d Experiences; I am

‘ unavoidably led to *conclude*, in a Judgment of Charity
 ‘ of *many of them*, that they have really undergone a *saving*
 ‘ *Change*. I have long observed a remarkable *Uniformity*
 ‘ in the *main Strokes* of their *spiritual Concern*. And more
 ‘ lately have noticed with particular Pleasure, a *great*
 ‘ *Thirst* after *Doctrinal Knowledge*, a *greater Insight* into
 ‘ *their own Hearts*, and a *Love* growing more and more in
 ‘ *Knowledge* and in all *Judgment*.

‘ As to *Errors* in *Doctrine* or *Disorders* and Extra-
 ‘ vagancies in *Practice* that any who have been the Sub-
 ‘ jects of the late religious Concern may have fallen into ;
 ‘ I am humbly of Opinion that *these, if such there be*,
 ‘ ought neither to be winked at, nor represented through a
 ‘ *Microscope*, but *proper Testimony* should be borne against
 ‘ them. Yet in the mean Time I think they should not
 ‘ be represented *ten-fold greater than they really are*, and
 ‘ by this Means the Glory of GOD’s Work obscured
 ‘ under a Cloud of *imaginary Errors and Disorders*. For
 ‘ my own Part I have seen little or no *Appearance* of the
 ‘ Growth of *Antinomian Errors*, or any Thing *visionary*
 ‘ or *enthusiastick*, either in *mine own Congregation* or among
 ‘ the People in the *Neighbourhood* where I live. Indeed
 ‘ if asserting Justification by Faith alone, and Denying it
 ‘ by the Law as a Covenant of Works, while the eternal
 ‘ Obligation of the Law as a Rule of Life, is strongly
 ‘ maintained in Practice as well as Profession, if this (I
 ‘ say) be *Antinomian Doctrine* ; then we have a great
 ‘ Growth of *Antinomianism*. Again, if asserting the Ne-
 ‘ cessity of supernatural Influence or divine Energy in
 ‘ Conversion, or, the Reality of the immediate witnessing
 ‘ and sealing of the SPIRIT be *Enthusiasm* ; then we have
 ‘ a remarkable Spread of *Enthusiasm* : And in *these Senses*
 ‘ may *Antinomianism* and *Enthusiasm* grow more and more
 ‘ till they overspread the whole Land.

‘ If you apprehend that the Publication of this Letter,
 ‘ or any Part of it, will be of Service to *the glorious*
 ‘ *Work of GOD* ; I am willing you should make that Use
 ‘ of it. The Substance thereof being what I trust (through
 ‘ divine Assistance) I shall always adhere to, and never be
 ‘ ashamed of.

‘ I subscribe with great Respect, one of the meanest of
 ‘ your Fellow Labourers in the Vineyard of our common
 ‘ LORD,

David Mac Gregore.

Londonderry, July 19th. 1743.

No.

No. IV. From *twelve* Revd. Pastors of Churches in
CONNECTICUT COLONY.

Norwich, June 23. 1743.

WE the Subscribers, Ministers of the Gospel, in (and in the Neighbourhood of) this Town, being occasionally met here, have just had a Sight of a Paragraph in the *Weekly Post-Boy* of the 30th of *May* last, wherein it is propos'd by a Number of Ministers, that such of their Brethren as are persuaded there has been of late, *an happy Revival of Religion in many Parts of the Land*, might have an *Interview at Boston* the Day after the Commencement approaching, and desire that those who may be hindred in Providence, from giving their Presence at the design'd Interview, wou'd send their ATTESTATIONS and communicate their Thoughts seasonably in Writing.

Since we are not like to be at the propos'd *Interview*, we take this Opportunity to signify to you that for our own Parts we are abundantly satisfied that there has of late, for *about three Years past*, been a great and wonderful *Revival of Religion in the several Places to which we minister, and in divers others which we are acquainted with*; wherein, thro' the mighty Power and Grace of GOD great Numbers of Persons of all Sorts, but especially young People, have been greatly awakned, deeply convinc'd of Sin; and many, as far as we can judge upon careful Observation and Examination, truly humbled at the Foot of a sovereign and righteous GOD and *savingly brought to believe* on the Lord JESUS CHRIST for everlasting Life: and have since lived so as to give Credit and Confirmation to their Pretensions; and do now *adorn their Profession in an humble and holy Life and Christian Conversation*; walking in the Fear and Love of GOD, and bringing forth Fruits meet for Repentance, in the Exercise of the Graces and Virtues of the Christian Life.

Although many who have made a Profession of Christianity and Conversion have run into *imprudent Things*, and discovered much *spiritual Pride*, by rash censorious Judgings, hasty Separations from their Ministers and Brethren, and some have embraced *wrong Notions and Principles* in Religion, (tho' there has been little of that in

in the Places where we live) yet we know of great Numbers who have been happily preserved from such Falls and Failings, and who carry themselves like the meek and humble Disciples of the blessed JESUS; and some who have been led astray thro' the Subtilty of Satan, have, by Grace, been recover'd and in a great Measure convinc'd of those Follies and Mistakes, and humbled for the Pride and Naughtiness of their Hearts. And all of a bad Tendency and Nature that we have seen does not give us *any Reason* to think that there has not been *a great and glorious Work of divine Grace* carried on among us, and *a great Reformation and Revival of Religion*; for which we desire to praise and adore the sovereign Mercy of GOD.

Our Time is now short, and we can't pretend to give a particular Account of *the Work of GOD* among our People, or of the *bad Things* which have been the Concomitants of *this blessed Work*; yet thus much we thought ourselves oblig'd to say to the *Praise of divine Grace*, and *the Glory of Him who is the Author of all Good*, to whom be all Glory, &c.

We are your Brethren, &c.

Joseph Meacham, *Pastor of the Church in Coventry.*

Benjamin Lord, *Pastor of the first Church in Norwich.*

Hezekiah Lord, *Pastor of a Church in Preston.*

Solomon Williams, *Pastor of the first Church in Lebanon.*

Daniel Kirtland, *Pastor of a Church in Norwich.*

Jabez Wight, *Pastor of a Church in Norwich.*

John Owen, *Pastor of the first Church in Groton.*

Samuel Moseley, *Pastor of a Church in Windham.*

Jonathan Parsons, *Pastor of the first Church in Lyme.*

Eleazer Wheelock, *Pastor of a Church in Lebanon.*

Benjamin Pomroy, *Pastor of the Church in Hebron.*

David Jewett, *Pastor of the 2d Church in New-London.*

N. B. *The Number of Pastors here subscribing and attesting to a remarkable Revival of Religion, thro' an extraordinary divine Influence, in many Parts of this Land, is One Hundred and eleven. Of these One belongs to the Colony of Rhode-Island; Eight to the Province of New-Hampshire: Twelve to the Colony of Connecticut: The other Ninety to the Province of the Massachusetts-Bay.—And there had doubtless been many more Attestations from our Brethren in Connecticut, if the Proposal that was published had reach'd them seasonably.*